

Bureau of Land Management, Interior

§ 3503.46

your acreage will include your proportionate part of the corporation's or association's share of the total lease or permit acreage. This only applies if you own more than 10 percent of the corporate stock or beneficial interest of the association.

FILING APPLICATIONS

§ 3503.40 Where do I file my permit or lease application and other necessary documents?

File your application in the State Office which manages the lands for which you are applying, unless we have designated a different State Office. For purposes of this part, a document is filed when it is received in the proper office.

§ 3503.41 Will BLM disclose information I submit under these regulations?

All Federal and Indian data and information submitted to the BLM are subject to part 2 of this title. Part 2 includes the regulations of the Department of the Interior covering public disclosure of data and information contained in Department of the Interior records. BLM may make certain mineral information not protected from disclosure under part 2 of this title may be made available for inspection without a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

§ 3503.42 When I submit confidential, proprietary information, how can I help ensure it is not available to the public?

When you submit data and information that you believe to be exempt from disclosure by part 2 of this title, you must clearly mark each page that you believe contains confidential information. BLM will keep all data and information confidential to the extent allowed by § 2.13(c) of this title.

§ 3503.43 How long will information I give BLM remain confidential or proprietary?

The FOIA does not provide an express period of time for which information may be exempt from disclosure to the public. We will review each situation individually and in accordance with

guidance provided by part 2 of this title.

§ 3503.44 How will BLM treat Indian information submitted under the Indian Mineral Development Act?

Under the Indian Mineral Development Act of 1982 (IMDA) (25 U.S.C. 2101 *et seq.*), the Department of the Interior will hold as privileged proprietary information of the affected Indian or Indian tribe—

(a) All findings forming the basis of the Secretary's intent to approve or disapprove any Minerals Agreement under IMDA; and

(b) All projections, studies, data, or other information concerning a Minerals Agreement under IMDA, regardless of the date received, related to—

(1) The terms, conditions, or financial return to the Indian parties;

(2) The extent, nature, value, or disposition of the Indian mineral resources; or

(3) The production, products, or proceeds thereof.

§ 3503.45 How will BLM administer information concerning other Indian minerals?

For information concerning Indian minerals not covered by § 3503.44 of this part, BLM will withhold such records as may be withheld under an exemption to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552) when it receives a request for information related to tribal or Indian minerals held in trust or subject to restrictions on alienation.

§ 3503.46 When will BLM consult with Indian mineral owners when information concerning their minerals is the subject of a FOIA request?

BLM will notify the Indian mineral owner(s) identified in the records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and the BIA, and give them a reasonable period of time to state objections to disclosure, using the standards and procedures of § 2.15(d) of this title, before making a decision about the applicability of FOIA exemption 4 to protect:

(a) information obtained from a person outside the United States Government; when

(b) following consultation with a submitter under § 2.15(d) of this title, BLM determines that the submitter does not